

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The Applicant thanks the Examiner for the Office Action dated February 7, 2007.

The Applicant acknowledges the Examiner's comment that the Applicant's previously filed argument in respect of the combination of Mori and Dymetman has been considered and was deemed persuasive.

Claim Objections

The antecedent error in claim 7 has been corrected.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

Claim 1 has been amended to specify a plurality of tags, each tag containing first coded data identifying: a region identity and a position of that tag on the surface. Basis for this amendment can be found in claims 11 and 15.

Claims 11, 15, 48 and 51 have been cancelled and consequential amendments have been made to some of the dependent claims.

The Applicant contests the Examiner's assertion that the present invention would have been obvious to the skilled person in view of Mori combined with Li.

Li describes a printer, which prints a barcode onto documents. The barcode may encode, for example, margin and tab settings for the printed document (see column 3, lines 32-38). The Examiner argues that barcodes encoding margin and tab settings reads onto "first coded data identifying a plurality of locations". Whilst the Applicant disagrees with this assertion, in deference to the Examiner's rejection, claim 1 has been amended to further distinguish from the teaching of newly cited Li.

In particular, claim 1 now specifies that the first interface includes a plurality of tags, with each tag identifying a region identity and a position of that tag on the first surface. Li fails to teach barcodes, which encode their own position on a surface. Li has no reason to do so and does not suggest anywhere that barcodes encoding their *own position* has any merit.

Whilst Dymetman teaches tags encoding their own position, Dymetman plainly generates coded data image data and graphical image data *separately* and prints the graphics and the coded data in *separate* printing steps (see column 11, lines 55-65). Furthermore, Dymetman does not describe a printer which contains a coded data generator for generating the first coded data using first identity data received from a computer system. The Examiner has already accepted these deficiencies of Dymetman and Mori in combination, and Li does nothing to make up for these deficiencies. In short, none of the prior art teaches a printer having a coded data generator which generates tags (as defined by claim 1) using first identity data received from a computer system.

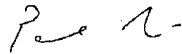
It is respectfully submitted that all of the Examiner's objections have been successfully traversed. Accordingly, it is submitted that the application is now in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and allowance of the application is courteously solicited.

Very respectfully,

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